Docket No.: MEISS71.022APC Customer No. 20995

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant : Lerf, Reto, et al.

App. No : 10/519,338

Filed: September 19, 2005

For : OPEN-PORE METAL COATING FOR

JOINT REPLACEMENT IMPLANTS AND METHOD OF PRODUCTION

THEREOF

Examiner : Bowman, Andrew J.

Art Unit : 1792

Conf No. : 9313

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application is a PTO/SB/08 Equivalent listing 29 references, of which 19 are enclosed/submitted.

Reference numbers 6 and 8-10 identify related patents or co-pending applications assigned to the assignee of this application. Applicants direct the Examiner to these applications to consider whether the subject matter claimed, now or as may be amended in the future, as well as the associated prosecution histories, now or in the future, may be relevant to the patentability of the present application (e.g., for reasons of obviousness-type double patenting). Applicants believe that the Examiner has access to the applications and associated file histories through the Patent Office (e.g., the IFW system). Accordingly, Applicants have not provided copies of these applications or their associated file histories, but would be happy to do so, now or in the future, should the Examiner so request. Copies of the references are not submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a final action and before the mailing of a Notice of Allowance. This Statement is accompanied by the